

STUDENT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Issues & Events  
ESSAY RUBRIC**

Criteria for Essay: The essay should be of an expository nature. The essay should be judged on content first. **Writing style, clarity, and precision of composition should be secondary consideration.** The essay should be approximately 150 (do not count them) words in length. Students should attempt to substantially develop a full range of points relative to the essay prompt. In the question of quality, judges will determine whether an essay that introduces many points shall be scored higher than an essay that develops fewer points more substantially.

Give each item a score between 1 and 10. (10 is the highest score)

**CONTENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ Includes a well-developed introduction that clearly identifies the topic that is the subject of the paper.

\_\_\_\_\_ Gives a clear analysis of the topic

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrates a clear sense of understanding of the topic.

\_\_\_\_\_ Uses specific details to elaborate on the significance of the topic.

\_\_\_\_\_ Relates specific current issues to the topic.

**FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_ Uses a logical and effective pattern of organization.

\_\_\_\_\_ Uses transition words and phrases to connect ideas.

**GRAMMAR, USAGE & MECHANICS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Contains no more than five or six minor errors in grammar and usage

\_\_\_\_\_ Contains no more than ten errors in spelling, capitalization and mechanics.

JUDGE'S BONUS FOR CLEARLY RELATING TO TOPIC \_\_\_\_\_ (1-10)

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

After marking the essays, judges should discuss the papers contending for rank, and judges may alter decisions as a result of the discussion. Judges are to reach a consensus on the rankings.

Judges should make comments on the rubric. First identify and comment on the positive aspects of the essay. Then offer constructive criticism aimed to help the student overcome areas of weakness or error.

JUDGES SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_